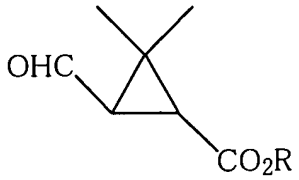
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

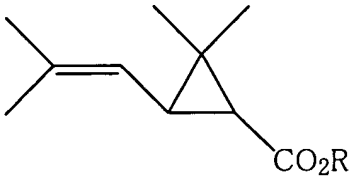
1. **(Currently Amended)** A process for the production of a 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid ~~derivative~~ compound of formula (2):



(2)

wherein R is hydrogen, alkyl which may be substituted with a substituent(s) which are halogen atoms, alkoxy groups, aryloxy groups or aralkyloxy groups, aryl which may be substituted with a substituent(s) which are the above alkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy or aralkyloxy, or aralkyl which are composed of the above alkyl groups and the above aryl groups, ~~substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl,~~

which process comprises reacting a 3,3-dimethyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)cyclopropanecarboxylic acid compound of formula (1):



(1)

wherein R is as defined above, with a periodic acid compound in the presence of a ruthenium compound.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The process for the production of **[[a]]** the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid ~~derivative~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein the periodic acid compound exhibits acidic property in its aqueous solution.

3. (**Currently Amended**) The process for the production of **[[a]]** the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid ~~derivative~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in the presence of a mixture of water and a water-immiscible organic solvent.

4. (**Currently Amended**) The process for the production of **[[a]]** the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid ~~derivative~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein the ruthenium compound is ruthenium metal, a ruthenium oxide, a ruthenium halide, a ruthenium complex, or a perruthenate.

5. (**Currently Amended**) The process for the production of **[[a]]** the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid ~~derivative~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein an iodic acid compound produced as a by-product in the reaction of **[[a]]** the 3,3-dimethyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)cyclopropanecarboxylic acid compound of formula (1) and **[[a]]** the periodic acid compound is converted into and recovered as a periodic acid compound, and the recovered periodic acid compound is reused in the above reaction.

6. (**Currently Amended**) The process for the production of **[[a]]** the 3,3-dimethyl-2-formylcyclopropanecarboxylic acid ~~derivative~~ compound according to claim 1, wherein the amount of periodic acid compound used is 2 to 3 moles, per mol of the 3,3-dimethyl-2-(2-methyl-1-propenyl)cyclopropanecarboxylic acid compound of formula (1).